



Syracuse VA Medical Center  
800 Irving Ave.  
Syracuse, NY 13210

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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For More Information

Robert McLean, VAMC, PAO

315-425-2422 (O) 315-956-1394 Mobile

## **Syracuse VA Medical Center Commemorates 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War**

### **Event included Presentation on Services and Programs Available to Veterans and Family Members**

**Syracuse, NY-** More 150 Vietnam Veterans and family members were on hand as the Syracuse VA Medical Center commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War with a tribute to Vietnam Veterans on Thursday, March 24th in the Medical Center Auditorium.

In addition to the recognition of area Vietnam Veterans, the event included a presentation by the NYS Division of Veterans Affairs and the Onondaga County Veterans Service Agency entitled “The Aging Veteran...What Every Veteran and Family Member Needs to Know”.

Members of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Chapter 103 also presented a special recognition award to Syracuse VA staff member Becky Ross for her dedicated service to their members.

The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs have directed that their respective institutions and organizations throughout the world commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. And, most importantly...recognize and thanks those Veterans who served in that war. This Commemoration is intend to offer the thanks of our nation to as many as possible of the 7.2 million living Vietnam Veterans and the 9 million families of those who served from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975.

“When they came home, many of these Veterans were left to meet the challenges associated with their service alone without the assistance available to today’s Veterans,” said James Cody, the Director of the Syracuse VA Medical Center.

“I am proud to say that much has changed since that first group of Vietnam Veterans came home. Vietnam Veterans make up the largest group of Veterans we serve at the Syracuse VA Medical Center. Of our 47,000 Veterans we serve here and at our Medical Center and our seven Community Based Outpatient Clinics....22, 734, or 48%, are Vietnam Veterans and we are dedicated to ensuring that all of those who served are provided with the best care, programs and services possible,” said Cody.

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